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DEC - 7 1998

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

December 4, 1998

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Magalie Salas, Esquire  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
The Portals  
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: EX PARTE Presentation in  
ET Docket No. 95-18; IB Docket No. 96-132  
ICO Services Limited (File No. 188-SAT-Lo1-97)  
Inmarsat Horizons (File No. 190-SAT-Lo1-97)  
Iridium, LLC (File No. 187-SAT-P/LA-97 (96))  
Globalstar, L.P. (File No. 182-SAT-P/LA-97 (64))  
Mobile Communications Holdings, Inc. (File No. 180-SAT-P/LA-97 (26))  
Constellation Communications, Inc. (File No. 189-SAT-Lo1-97)  
TMI Communications and Company, L.P. (File No. 189-SAT-Lo1-97).  
The Boeing Company (File No. 179-SAT-P/LA-97(16), 90-SAT-AMEND-98)  
Celsat, Inc. (File No. 26/27/28-DSS-P/LA-97 & 88-SAT-AMEND-98)

Dear Ms. Salas:

Representatives of Iridium, LLC met with International Bureau officials today to discuss the potential for the development of an industry-driven global band plan for the

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Mobile Satellite Service between 1 and 3 GHz. The meeting included Regina Keeney, Thomas Tycz, Rebecca Arbogast, and Linda Haller. Iridium participants were Leo Mondale, Charles Rush, Audrey Allison, and James Byrd.

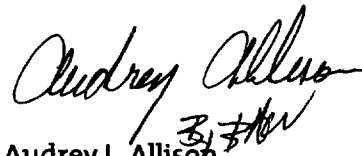
The meeting addressed the development of an industry-led global MSS band plan in order to bring about a fair competitive environment by providing for equitable access to spectrum between 1 and 3 GHz. A summary of the substance of the discussion can be found in the attached document that was distributed at today's meeting.

An original and one copy of this memorandum and attached document are being submitted for each docket and application file number noted above.

Should any questions arise concerning this matter, please communicate directly with the undersigned.

Very truly yours,

IRIDIUM LLC



Audrey L. Allison  
Counsel, Regulatory Matters

Enclosure

Cc (w/ encl): Regina Keeney  
Tom Tycz  
Rebecca Arbogast  
Linda Haller



## Industry-driven Global MSS Band Plan

FALL 1998



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## **Purpose of Band Plan**

**To bring about a fair competitive environment by establishing an industry-driven global MSS frequency coordination process that provides for equitable access to spectrum.**



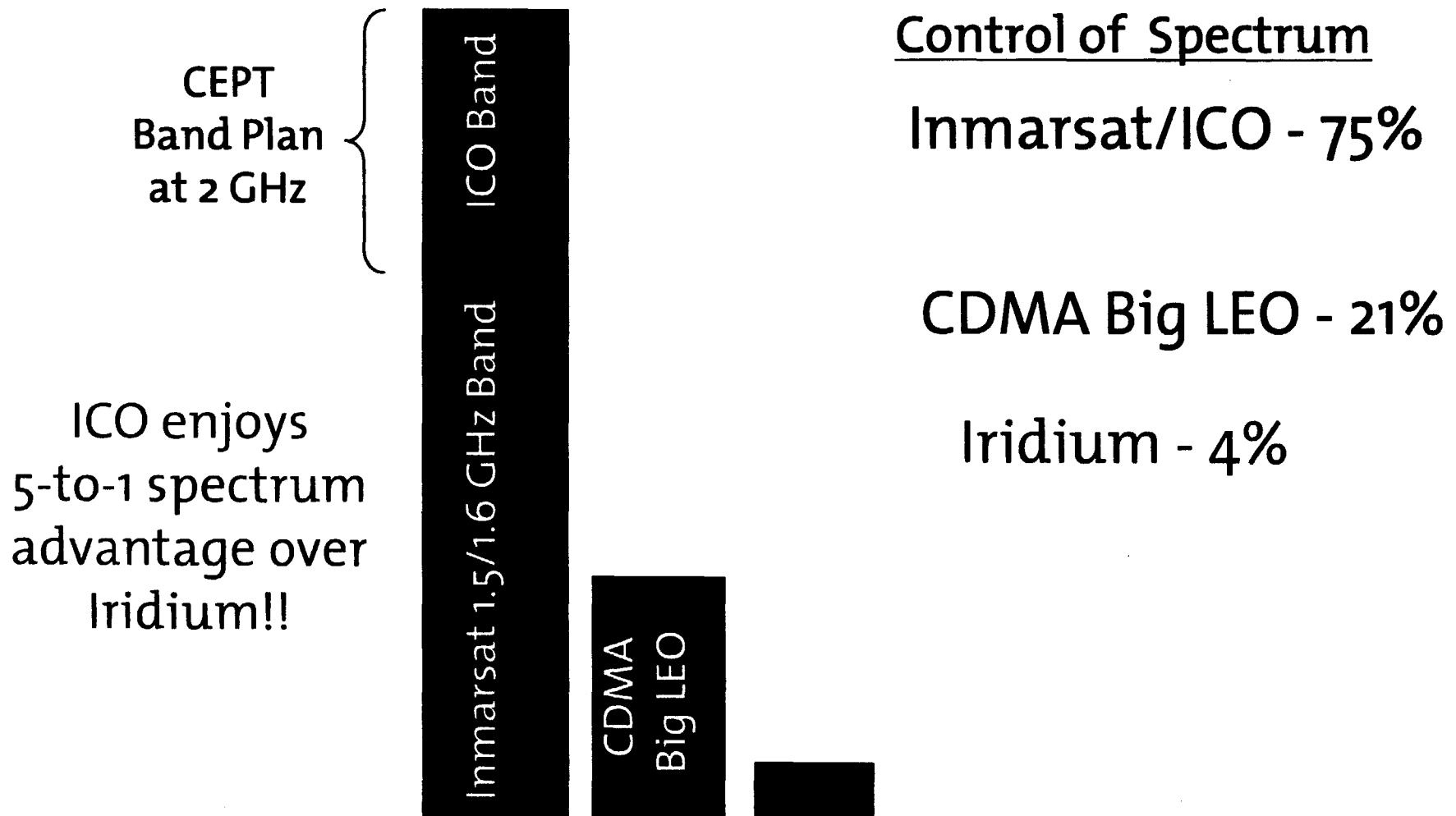
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## Current Situation

Disproportionate control of global MSS  
spectrum by IGOs and affiliates

Assignment of MSS spectrum not market driven  
and stifles competition

## Current Control of Global MSS Spectrum Between 1-3 GHz



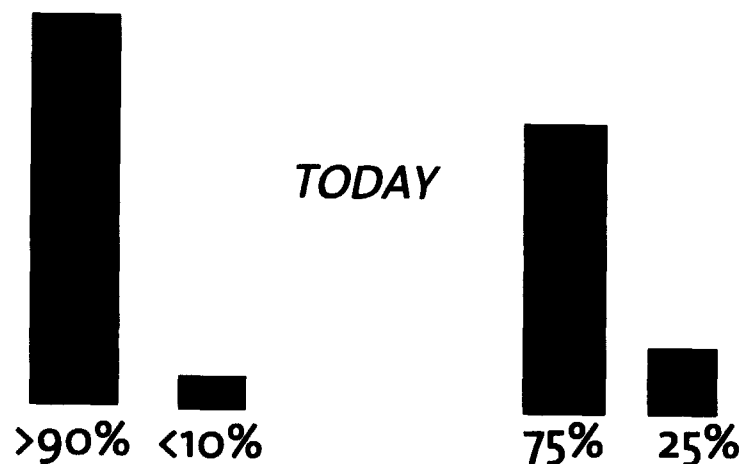


## MSS Market Share and Spectrum Trend

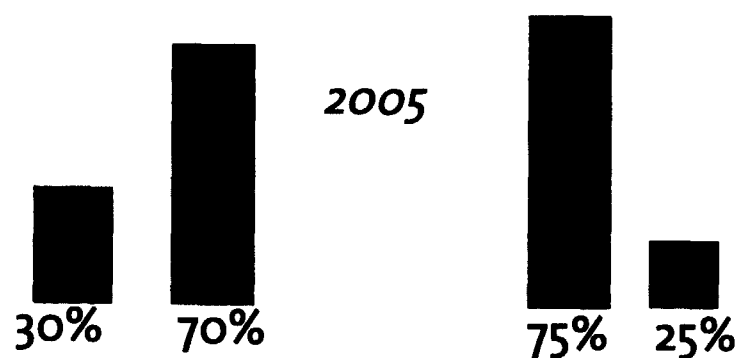
MARKET SHARE

CONTROL of GLOBAL  
MSS SPECTRUM

*TODAY*



*2005*



■ Inmarsat & ICO  
■ US 1st  
Generation  
Big LEOs



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**Current FCC 2 GHz licensing proceeding  
is not likely to create global solution**

**Limited spectrum available at 2 GHz for global MSS  
systems**

**CEPT band plan effectively blocks access to 2 GHz  
spectrum by any US MSS system prior to 2005**

**FCC 2 GHz proceeding will be long and contentious and  
is not likely to result in equitable spectrum  
arrangements for all credible applicants**





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## **The timing is right to pursue a more equitable MSS frequency band plan**

- **Privatization**
  - Inmarsat - controlling the largest amount of MSS spectrum - will be privatized by mid-1999
- **Licensing**
  - FCC MSS ongoing licensing processes
  - CEPT MSS band plan and milestone review
- **EU-US Harmonization**
  - Recent TABD communiqué called on US and EU governments to establish “...a formal harmonization process for radio frequency assignments to enable a fair competitive environment...”



## Spectrum Assignment Principles

- Mobile satellite services will continue to be provided for the foreseeable future by regional and global system operators
- Access to spectrum is the key element for market entry and competition in radio-based telecommunications services
- Industry-led efforts with support from regulators are the best way to accomplish fair and equitable access to spectrum worldwide
- Transitional arrangements are needed to assure access to spectrum for current MSS systems expected to continue operations through 2005 and beyond



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**Industry- driven MSS band plan will result in  
frequency use consistent with market forces**

**Circa 2005 MSS systems can be accommodated in  
current 1.5/1.6 GHz, Big LEO and 2 GHz MSS bands**

**MSS systems are being designed and built that are  
more spectrally efficient**

**Lead time available to obtain MSS spectrum for  
systems coming into operation post 2005**

**AMSS will not be adversely impacted**



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## Next Steps

Support of major MSS industry participants

Regulator support for Band Plan